

Belleville agenda lists appointments

BELLEVILLE—The Belleville City Council tonight is expected to appoint a new city clerk, a new city treasurer and promote a city police patrolman to the rank of sergeant.

The candidate for city treasurer is Jame E. White. The policeman to be promoted is patrolman Willard E. Dockter. Acting City Clerk Jean Baumdraher is to be named city clerk during the meeting.

The three were suggested for the posts during a recent civil service meeting. They would take office July 1.

In addition, the city council is scheduled to receive the monthly urban renewal report during tonight's meeting, which begins at 7:30 in city hall.

18 1974

Wieleba of Dearborn is the new Miss Teen-age Michigan. She won the crown Saturday night, and will represent Michigan in the Miss National Teen-age America pageant in Atlanta, Ga.

Miss Wieleba, 17, won out over 111 contestants judged on the basis of civic contributions, academic achievements, poise, personality and charm. She is a student at Dearborn High School.

School tax levy

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — Each of Michigan's more than 600 public school districts could levy its own income tax under a proposal in the Michigan Legislature.

Now, only the Detroit school board has that power.

Rep. Roy Spencer, R-Attica, of the bill in the House

In Sumpter

Property tax report shown

MAR 21 1974

BELLEVILLE — Bertram J. Bradley, Sumpter Township treasurer, has prepared a detailed report on township property tax collections. The report is on display at township hall.

According to Bradley's report, the township collected \$1,124,904 in taxes this year.

Of that amount, \$37,600

went to the Sumpter Township general fund, approximately \$154,000 went to the township water department and \$191,700 went to Wayne County.

Much of the remainder of the funds raised was contributed to the four school districts which serve the township. About \$368,500 went to the Van Buren district, \$143,900 went to Lincoln schools and about \$40,000 each was allocated to the Huron and Airport districts.

About \$140,000 remains in the tax fund. Bradley said township residents are encouraged to visit the township hall to examine the full report.

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Belleville fire levels building

BELLEVILLE — A fire of undetermined origin leveled a 74-year-old multiple-office building here Tuesday night, destroying a dentist's office, an attorney's office and a bookkeeping service.

According to Ellis Ammerman, Belleville fire marshal, firemen reached the scene of the blaze at Third and Main streets shortly after 11 p.m. and found the three-story brick and wood frame structure engulfed in smoke and

flame.

MAR 27 1974

About 30 firemen from the Belleville and Van Buren Township departments battled the blaze until about 6 a.m. this morning. The last fireman did not leave the scene until about 8 a.m., he said.

Ammerman said the cause of the blaze is still under investigation and did not estimate monetary damage saying only that the building was "a total loss."

Ammerman said the building which had been built in 1900, was unoccupied at the time the fire broke out.

No firemen were injured in the blaze.



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mills authorized to balance this year's budget. School officials are currently predicting they will probably have to levy the full 15 mills next year to keep revenues up with anticipated expenditures.

Projected increases in property valuations will also hike taxes next year.

Voters in both of the district's precincts passed the ballot proposition.

In precinct one (district residents living in Washtenaw County), the question passed 583 yes, to 443 no, with 11 spoiled ballots.

Precinct two (district residents living in Wayne County) passed the renewal by close to a two-to-one margin. Yes votes totaled 158, with 89 no votes counted. No spoiled ballots were reported in the second precinct.

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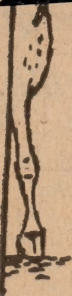
Routine agenda for Belleville.

APR 1 1974

BELLEVILLE — The Belleville City Council faces a very quiet and very short meeting tonight, with only the most routine items on the agenda, according to Mayor Royce Smith.

The meeting starts at 7:30 in city hall.

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Belleville topic

APR. 15 1974

BELLEVILLE—The Belleville City Council tonight is expected to discuss a proposed Van Buren Township sewer which would run through the city. Design details and plans for joint funding of the 30-inch sewer have not been made final yet.

The council is also scheduled to consider a plan proposed by the Van Buren Township Board of participation of city residents in recreation programs at Van Buren Park.

Mayor Royce Smith also said he will ask the city attorney tonight for a plan to get rid of parking meters which have been removed from city streets. Originally, Smith said the city planned to hold an auction for the meters. "We got more than 400 calls for some," he said. "I don't think an auction with everybody bidding on a meter would work, so we're going to try to come up with something else."

The city council meeting begins at 7:30 in city hall.

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Equal Opportunity

DANCERS NEE

Part or full time.
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SENIOR MEDI LABORATORY TECH

For Sunday & Mond
noon shift Apply:
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BEYER MEMORIAL

Residents asked to donate

APR 20 1974

BELLEVILLE —
Belleville resident Steve Adams, a former Kentuckian who drove a semitruck and trailer down to Brandenburg, Ky., last week, says area people have donated enough goods for tornado victims in the small Kentucky community for a second 30-foot trailer.

But Adams said Ford Motor Co. has donated a truck, 40-foot trailer and driver to make the trip Monday and more donations are needed if the 40-foot trailer is going to be filled.

The trailer will be parked here in front of the Free Pentacostal Church of God, 51185 Willis Rd., through the weekend, he said, and everyone is encouraged to make a donation to residents of the Brandenburg area who were left homeless when their community was struck by a tornado recently.

ENGLISH SETTER
1 yr. old. Asking \$125
439-7430

55 GALLON aquarium, metal frame, complete set-up (fish not included). Best offer. 482-3627.

33—Help Wanted

P OF SUMPTER WANTED

g of Precincts in the Town-
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re available at the Clerk's
pter Rd., Belleville. Appli-
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and 9-noon Saturday.

Clarence J. Hoffman, Jr.
Sumpter Township Clerk

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Groups discuss paving problems

BELLEVILLE—This city's road-paving program was discussed twice Tuesday, once by city officials and contractors and once by a citizens' group seeking stepped-up paving.

Mayor Royce Smith said he met with representatives of the contractors Tuesday afternoon in an effort to get the paving under way again. The project was halted last fall due to weather conditions and was scheduled to resume this month.

A group of citizens, calling itself Active Citizens Today (ACT) met Tuesday night at Edgemont Elementary School to discuss paving problems.

Smith said the paving is 85 percent complete, but contractual difficulties have prevented the remainder of the work from being done. The \$1.5 million project was awarded to one paving company which subcontracted it to another paving firm. The work was then subcontracted to a third firm, he said.

The present contractors, Smith said, do not want to resume the project until after June 1. At the meeting Tuesday, Smith said he suggested the present contract be voided and another paving firm be hired if the present con-

tractors do not begin working again before June.

Smith said he will meet with contractors again Thursday.

"Once they start up again," he said, "there's only about 10 days worth of work to do."

While city officials continue to try to get the project started again, homeowners are complaining about muddy roads and dust in their homes.

"The paving program was the major part of our discussion," said Mrs. Judy Fruit, a member of ACT. "Four different dates for the beginning of the work have been given out, and we want to know what's really going to happen."

She said members of her group plan to attend Monday's city council meeting to voice their concerns about the paving.

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thought was right and caring little
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youngster, I did not always find it
comfortable to be part of bucking
the system.

But for years now I have been
very proud of the old-timer and for
his willingness to speak up when
others tended to remain silent.
And, during this last troubled year
here in Washington, I have been
particularly proud of a man who
now is well launched into his
second century.

We want to know

What do you know?

If you know some news about
people or have a good picture
idea we'd like to know about it
here at The Press.

We want to bring you bright,
lively stories and pictures about
people in the Golden Triangle
and you can help by calling our
News Editor at 482-2000.

He'll listen to all your
suggestions and many of them
could lead to stories and pic-
tures.

We like the unusual. We don't
want to use large group pictures
or ground-breaking type pic-
tures because we don't feel that
most of readers are served by
such pictures. However we
always want to use stories on
such groundbreakings and club
actions.

If you have any questions or
suggestions please give us a

MAY 3 1974

Street project will resume

BELLEVILLE—Contractors say the Belleville road paving project will be under way again Wednesday.

News that work would resume earlier than the June 1 date originally suggested by the contractors resulted in cancellation of a meeting between contractors and city officials which was

scheduled for Thursday.

Mayor Royce Smith said he sees "no reason why the

contractors won't send us the letter they promised that will say they'll be back to

work by next Wednesday." Smith said the earlier date is a result of a meeting held

with contractors this week. At that meeting, Smith said he suggested that the present contract with the paving company be voided and another company be hired to do the work if the project could not be resumed before June.

He said the company then offered to begin working again next week.

"Barring a strike, that's when they'll start," he said.

Carly Simon's life settles

By MARY CAMPBELL
AP Newsfeatures Writer

James Taylor answers
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Miss Simon and Sarah
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Road gripes due in Belleville

BELLEVILLE—Members of a homeowners group say they will be present at the Belleville City Council meeting tonight to complain about delays in the city road paving program.

However, Mayor Royce Smith says he has good news for the group. "The contractors are commencing work on the paving today," he said. "They should be finished with the paving in about two weeks."

The project was suspended last fall due to weather conditions. Smith said only about 15 percent of the entire project remains unfinished.

The city council is also scheduled to discuss extending water service in the city cemetery. Smith said the city provides water to the cemetery "so that people can water the flowers. The cemetery keeps growing, so we have to extend the water to other parts of it."

Smith said council will also discuss insurance for city equipment

The meeting starts at 7:30 in city hall.

SL

MAY 7 1974

Tuesday, May 7, 1974

THE PRESS 7

Belleville may hold up payment on paving work

By GREG ERICKSON
Of The Press Staff

BELLEVILLE—About a dozen residents complained to the Belleville City Council Monday night about clean-up work which needs to be done by city road paving contractors.

Mayor Royce Smith told the residents the contractors will not be paid in

full until city officials and homeowners are satisfied with the paving work.

"When the job is all done," Smith said, "the contractors are going to want their money. That's the only weapon we have to get them to do the job right."

Smith said approximately \$100,000 of the contractors' fee will be withheld until the

project is completed. "If they don't do it right, we'll take that money and do it the way it should be done. I won't be surprised if I see a whole lot of cleaning up after the paving is done, because they're going to want their money."

Smith said the pavers began work Monday morning and should resume

paving by Wednesday. Once they start, he said, it should take them only about three weeks to finish the job.

Some of the residents complained of piles of earth which have been left on their property by the contractors. Others said their lawns had been damaged and new grass has not grown back.

Smith said the contractors

would be made to repair any damage and clean up all property before the \$100,000 would be paid.

The city council also approved rental of a driver's license information terminal for the city license bureau. City Clerk Jean Baumdraher said the machine will enable city officials to check a person's

driving record in minutes through use of a computer in Lansing. The machine will cost about \$210 a month. Smith said he did not know when the machine would be installed at city hall.

Council member Robert Tontalo asked the council to consider extending water lines in the city cemetery. Tontalo said the cemetery

has grown in size recently and some people must run hoses or carry water to gravesites. Tontalo said he would investigate the cost of additional lines and report back to council by the next meeting.

Tontalo also asked for permission to study city insurance policies to determine if small pieces of

equipment can be insured at low cost.

"We had a chain saw," he said, "and somebody stole it. I found out that it wasn't insured. We have thousands of dollars of stuff like typewriters that we don't have insurance on." He said he would have more information by next council meeting.

FAMILY

8 THE PRESS

Tuesday, May 7, 1974

Eagles women toast mothers

Tour to feature 7 historic homes

DEXTER — A home tour featuring eight points of historical interest will be held here Friday by the Friends of the Dexter District Library. All proceeds will go to the library.

The ninth annual tour has been expanded to include evening hours. Hours will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and from 6 to 8 p.m.

brick homes on the tour. Built about 1867, it is a large, imposing structure with a cupola, overlooking the Huron River. The original exterior has been preserved although some interior improvements have been made.

Another brick home on the tour features an addition made from the old oak beams of



Belleville home tour set

MAY 14 1974 BELLEVILLE — Homes that are more than a century old, gardens and antique railroad engines are highlights of the Belleville area home tour sponsored by "The Number" crisis center on June 2.

Beginning at 2 p.m., the tour will visit several historic homes in the area. The Jahr home, where Charles Lindbergh lived during World War II; the Scothorn home, which is 125 years old, and others will be inspected by the tour group.

In addition, a Belleville resident's railroad engine collection will be examined by the group.

Tickets for the tour are \$3, with proceeds going to The Number, Belleville's telephone crisis intervention service.

Tickets must be purchased in advance from Cathy Horst, 699-7968. Transportation and refreshments will be provided.

September.
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What's vital to the labor political strategists is that their man

chiefs. Ted Kennedy isn't waiting that long. Watch him on the union circuit. He's running.

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there is much to be gained. No more worry about impeachment; no more concern that more facts will come out; no fear that those facts will be later used in an attempt to put him behind bars.

He could make his bargain with

passed the Congress. Back in January, Congress was almost as anxious as Mr. Nixon to avoid the sludge which the mills of justice have been spewing forth.

It would be harder now that the

Belleville scoreboard

Belleville City Council meeting, May 20, 1974. The council:

Received a letter of resignation from John Touse, chairman of the city planning commission, who is moving out of the city.

Approved an amendment to the city water and sewer ordinance which requires a permit and a bond for some projects underneath city streets in order to protect new pavement.

Received bids for the remaining 15 percent of the city's urban renewal project and sent them to urban renewal officials for study.

Approved closing of the

city license bureau on Saturday, May 25.

Received a report from Sherry Erb regarding the Belleville Area Improvement Association.

Approved purchase of insurance for city equipment at a cost of about \$100 per year.

Raised the price of cemetery lots, monument foundations and grave digging at Hillside Cemetery due to an increase in labor costs.

Approved a contract with Van Buren Township concerning use of Van Buren Park by city residents at an annual permit cost of \$7.

MAY 21 1974

President to court," the prosecutor said.

That position, said Jaworski, would make "a farce" of his charter and would render its guarantee of the right to take the President to court "an idle and empty one."

In his order directing the President to give him the subpoenaed material to determine whether it is relevant to the cover-up trial, Sirica specifically rejected what he called the President's "attempt to abridge the special prosecutor's independence."

Sirica said the need for evidence for the trial was "if anything, more compelling."

Hegan declared, in any sense, they'd be getting hot

wanted on FBI Monday, for illegal use and automatic weapons. to classify Miss LA participant end in which six LA, including its e, died after an e with 500 police geles hideout.

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MAY 22 1974

Belleville budget expenses are up by half

BELLEVILLE — Expenditures proposed in the 1974-75 Belleville budget total \$427,874 — up 52 percent over last year's spending figure of \$281,309.

The proposed budget will be presented to the public at a hearing scheduled for June 3.

City officials say the increase in spending is due to general increases in costs of

all areas of city government.

An area of major increase is the city police department, according to city officials. During the coming fiscal year, the city expects to add at least one and possibly two patrolmen to the force. The additional men, combined with salary increases for all police, have boosted the police depart-

ment's expenditures from \$134,500 in 1973-74 to \$193,396 this year.

The police contract for 1974-75 is not settled yet, but the budget includes supposed increases in salaries for police.

Another \$23,600 increase is noted in the city water and sewage department. The increase is due in part to an \$8,000 increase in Detroit

water rates, a \$2,000 increase in water commissioner's salary, and \$4,683 for the city's share of the cost of the Van Buren Township sewer project.

Revenue from combined water and sewer services is also up by more than \$20,000, according to the proposed budget.

City spending is expected to increase \$500 to \$2,000 in almost every area, due to inflation, according to city officials.

A major source of revenue for the city in 1974-75, according to the budget, is property tax, which is up by

\$75,000 from the 1973-74 level. The tax on mobile homes in the city is also up

more than \$6,000 from this year's figure.

Both of these increases,

officials say, are due to an increase in the millage rate as a result of the issuance of general obligation bonds for the city street paving program.

Wednesday, May 22, 1974

THE PRESS 13

**SALE
STARTS
HURS.**



Gas leaks into lake

MAY 22 1974

BELLEVILLE — Some gasoline from the tanker which exploded near here Monday leaked into Belleville Lake, but state officials say all or most of the gas has been removed and little damage was done to lakeshore property.

A twin tanker loaded with more than 16,000 gallons of gasoline went out of control Monday evening on Interstate 94 near Haggerty Road. Firemen from several departments battled the resulting blaze for hours.

Some of the gasoline which did not catch fire could be seen running along the roadside and into storm drains from which it flowed into the lake.

Township officials estimate that a 10,000 square-foot area of the lake inlet near Haggerty Road was covered with gasoline.

Soon after the tanker caught fire, however, Department of Natural Resources officials were at the scene.

Standard Oil Co. workers also arrived at the site and began pollution control procedures.

Floats were placed in the inlet to prevent the gasoline slick from spreading out through the lake. Then pumps were used to suck the gasoline out of the water.

Workers continued to remove gasoline from the lake through Tuesday morning.

According to Van Buren Township Trustee Stephen Kuchta, the gasoline was removed before any damage was done to the shore.

"A southwesterly wind helped to keep the gasoline where it was," Kuchta said. "The DNR is completely satisfied with the clean-up job."

continues through the rest of the year, the loss would be well over \$200,000.

Kerschbaum added that funds raised in excess of the campaign goal will be used to help bridge the gap. He conceded, however, that even that will not be enough to see United Way through unless there is a shift in the present unemployment picture.

All United Way agencies have been guaranteed 100 percent of their monthly allocation through June, Kerschbaum said.

He said United Way officials are now monitoring the situation at 78 units in the area which participate in the payroll deduction program. If there is no improvement, he said, the group's executive board will meet June 13 to decide on an appropriate course of action.

Basically, Kerschbaum continued, the board would have two options: (1) To dip into a limited reserve fund maintained to see the organization through the end of each year; or (2) make across-the-board cuts in allocations to participating agencies.



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JUN 4 1974

Budget, tax increase approved in Belleville

BELLEVILLE — The 1974-75 city budget, totaling \$427,874, along with a 3.15 mill boost in the city's tax rate, were approved by the Belleville City Council Monday night.

Mayor Royce Smith said the tax hike was necessary because of inflation and increased spending by the city.

Last year's budget totaled \$281,309.

One major increase, he said, is in expenditures for the police department. One new patrolman has been added to the force and negotiations to hike police pay are now in progress. These factors, city officials estimate, will add up to a \$60,000 increase in expenditures.

In addition, city officials say that an average 10 percent increase in administrative costs due to inflation has resulted in another \$40,000 increase in city spending.

These increases, Smith said, as well as the city's continuing obligation to repay special assessment bonds for the Belleville street paving program, resulted in the higher property tax rate.

The 1974-75 levy is 13 mills on the State Equalized Valuation (SEV), up from 9.85 mills last year. The new levy will increase residents' real and personal property tax by \$3.15 per \$1,000 SEV.

This means that the owner of a \$20,000 home, assessed at \$10,000, will pay \$130 in taxes. The same person would have paid \$90 last year.

None of the residents present at the meeting Monday questioned council or city auditors during time allotted for a public hearing on the

budget. The budget was approved unanimously by council members.

In addition to approving the budget, council also approved a contract for demolition of the remaining six buildings at the city urban renewal site. The contract was awarded to Stanson Wrecking Co. of Dearborn Heights at a cost of \$7,945, the lowest of the five bids.

Also during the meeting, three students from the South Junior High School Student Council presented Belleville Police Chief C. E. McLaughlin with a resuscitation device. The small,

hand-held device can be used instead of mouth-to-mouth resuscitation to revive a person who has stopped breathing.

Students at the school took up a collection to purchase the \$45 machine for the police department. The students, Chris Knowlton, Margo Nowak and Pam Parielka, were commended by McLaughlin and Smith.

"Every now and then," Smith said, "something happens that makes me proud to be mayor of this fair city, and this is one of them."

What's inside

Local news on pages
2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 17, 18

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THE

Plane



Improvement group to meet

JUN 4 1974 BELLEVILLE — The newly formed Belleville Area Improvement Association (BAIA) is scheduled to meet at 8 tonight in the Knob on the Lake Clubhouse.

Officials of the group say it was formed to put "hopes, ideas and dreams to constructive use to benefit and unite the (Belleville) community."

During the meeting, the group will set up task forces "to take inventory of our community's present situation" and discuss programs to better the Belleville area.

All Belleville elected officials and residents are invited to attend the meeting. For more information, call Sherry Erb, 699-7242.

ES — POTTED, READY TO PLANT

making a first attempt at home gardening, we will be
to answer your questions as best we can.

and Browse around — Bring the Family
f parking space away from the crowd.

— BEZIS —

Urban renewal report set

BELLEVILLE

JUL 1

1974

Belleville City Council will meet at 7:30 tonight in council chambers in the municipal building.

On the agenda is the urban renewal report for July and a request from the Belleville Kiwanis Club to sell popcorn at July 4 festivities.

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U.S.A. division in Bay City ratified
a new three-year contract.
Officials representing 175 mem-
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1041 said the contract was ap-
proved Saturday by a 10-1 margin.

They said the new pact will in-
crease average hourly wages and
fringe benefits from \$5.16 to \$6.34